

Claims

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for reviewing operation of software objects in a computer program, the software objects, methods on the objects and parameters for the methods are stored in a library, the method comprising the acts of:

retrieving an object for review from an object store to provide a selected object;

5 retrieving from an input dialog a selected method for exercising the selected object;

obtaining selected parameters for use in the method for exercising the selected object; and

exercising the selected object with the selected method using the selected parameters so that the operation of the software object is reviewed.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the library is a type library and the method further comprises:

cocreating using information stored in the type library an instance of the object for review;

and

storing the instance of the object in the object store.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of exercising creates another object that may be exercised and the method further comprises:

storing the another object in the object store.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the library is a type library and the act of obtaining comprises:

displaying an input dialog for a user to chose parameters using information stored in the type library or already retrieved for use with the selected method exercising the selected object.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein the act of exercising comprises:

invoking the selected method to exercise the selected object with the chosen parameters.

6. A method for testing software objects comprising:

receiving input dialog selections that specify a selected object and a selected method for operation on the object during testing;

detecting whether testing of the selected object is complete;

5 if testing of the selected object is not complete, calling the selected method on the selected object and displaying an input dialog for parameters to provide selected parameters for use by the selected method;

exercising the selected method on the selected object using the selected parameters from the input dialog so that software objects may be tested for operation with the selected method using the selected parameters.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprises:

creating a library store storing object information defining elements of each software object; and

retrieving object information from the library store including methods on each object.

8. The method of claim 6 wherein the input dialog selections include a cocreate selection indicating an instance of the selected object is to be created and the method further comprises:

cocreating an instance of the selected object.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the act of exercising comprises:

retrieving selected parameters chosen from the input dialog for parameters; and

invoking on the instance of the selected object the selected method and using the selected parameters chosen from the input dialog to exercise the instance of the selected object.

10. The method of claim 9 further comprises:

interpreting the result of exercising the instance of the selected object.

11. The method of claim 10 further comprises:

logging the selected object, selected method, selected parameters along with the result interpreted by the act of interpreting.

12. A method for creating a log record of a plurality of COM objects exercised by methods and parameters associated with each of the COM objects, the method comprising:

parsing COM object information into methods and parameters;

storing the methods and parameters in a library store;

5 detecting an input selection indicating each object to be exercised and the method to exercise the object;

cocreating an instance of the object to be exercised;

getting the method and parameters chosen for use with the method to exercise the instance of the object;

10 invoking the method with a chosen parameters to exercise the instance of the object to be exercised; and

logging the result of the exercising the instance of the object; and

15 repeating the detecting, cocreating, getting, invoking and logging acts to create a log record of the plurality of COM objects for use in debugging and adjusting the operation of the COM objects.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the library is a type library.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the act of getting comprises:

calling the method on the object;

displaying parameter choices for use with the method; and

retrieving the chosen parameter from the parameter choices.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprises:

interpreting operations performed in exercising the instance of the object; and

generating a result based upon the operations performed.